

Retro Advisory Committee

Meeting of October 8, 1996

Minutes

Attendance:

<input type="checkbox"/> A	<i>Pat Boss, Hop Growers of WA</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> P	<i>Dick Mettler, NW Wall & Ceiling Contr Assoc</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> P	<i>Deanne Edwards, Pederson Fryer Farms</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> P	<i>Rob Sumner, Timber Operator's Council</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> P	<i>John Gentry, Decor Carpet One</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> P	<i>John Sweitzer, Red Lion Inns & Hotels</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> P	<i>Joseph Hawkins, Bekins Northwest</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> P	<i>Gene Vosberg, Restaurant Assoc of WA</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> P	<i>Tom Kwieciak, Bldg Industry Assoc of WA</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

P=PRESENT; A=ABSENT; E=EXCUSED

Meeting was called to order at 1:04 PM; moved, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the August 13, 1996, meeting as submitted.

Voc BPR Project – Michael Arnis and David Overby (BPR project lead) discussed the current status of the Voc BPR project and provided an overview of the redesign process being used. They continue to encourage input and feedback from interested parties. Mike Sotelo and Dick Mettler both urged that representatives of the construction industry be included on the Voc subcommittee of the Workers' Comp Advisory Committee. Mike Arnis can be contacted at (360) 902-4477; Dave Overby can be reached at (360) 902-6795.

Actuary's Corner – Bill White discussed the proposed 1997 industrial insurance rates and retro size group tables. The net effect will be no change in rates, other than a return to the January 1996 levels. They anticipate the state fund contingency reserve will be down to \$825 million by the end of 1996. The frequency and duration of claims has remained the same, though there has been an increase in hearing loss and PPD claims. A public hearing on 1997 rates is scheduled for October 22, 1996.

Insurance Services Update – Kathy Willis explained that the "Evolution of Claims" project is closely examining the proposal from AWARE to create dedicated retro claim units, and considering other feedback as well. Kathy provided a handout outlining the major interests of employers and asked for feedback. This information will be helpful to the project team in making sure that the employers interests are addressed. Kathy indicated that she will arrange for the project team to provide an update at a future meeting.

Policy Development – Kathy provided an update on claims policy 9.20 (*Release of Medical Information to Employers*). A revised provider bulletin will be going out to providers shortly.

Retro Legislation – Kathy discussed the proposed retro legislation that would revise the process through which state agencies receive their retro refund monies.

Release of Retro Adjustment Information – Kathy distributed an example of the type of adjustment information that will be provided to those requesting retro group histories. The agency will begin fulfilling these requests beginning October 21, 1996.

Retro Symposium – Tom Kwieciak gave a brief description of the agenda for the retro symposium that will take place during the Governor's Industrial Safety & Health Conference in Spokane. Various speakers will participate, including physicians, an attorney, and Department experts.

External Access – Roy Manicke is retiring from state service at the end of October, and Al Newman will be taking over as project manager. Additional screens that provide employer and retro information will be made available to external access users later this month. The Department is also working with the Department of Information Services to allow external access customers to use the World Wide Web to access L&I data, instead of the dial-up network via modem.

The project team is still exploring the option of having monthly and quarterly reports made available on CD-ROM. A brief discussion of software requirements ensued, and a demonstration of CD-ROM technology was provided following adjournment of the committee.

Any comments or feedback regarding external access can be directed to Al Newman (360 902-5924) or Kathy Willis.

Meeting adjourned at 3:48 PM.

Meeting Schedule Information for 1997:

Meeting dates for 1997 continue to be on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, in February, April, June, August, October and December. The meetings will begin at 1:00 PM in the main auditorium of the L&I Building in Tumwater, WA. (*Subject to change with prior notification*)

02-11-97; **04-08-97;** **06-10-97;** **08-12-97;** **10-14-97;** **12-09-97.**